



Wisconsin Department of Health Services



Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

ODHH Net

Installment #547, April / May 2014

Notice: This will mark the final publication of ODHH Net. Starting in June 2014, the Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will be transitioning the ODHH Net to a new quarterly online newsletter which will be titled, “ODHH Connections”.

If you are planning an event, please submit your events/items **6 - 8 weeks prior** to the event date for inclusion in future installment(s) to Melani Kaplan at Melani.Kaplan@wisconsin.gov. Whenever possible, please include a web link to your event flyer, workshop details, or job posting.

❖ **MONTHLY COLUMNS**

- Access-Advocacy News / Updates
- Legislative/Government News – State and Federal
- Support for Individuals / Parents / Families—New Announcements
- Learning Opportunities—New Announcements
- Employment Resources / Job Opportunities

❖ **CALENDAR** - Events / Save the Dates / Workshops—Updated Monthly

❖ **ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

❖ **ORGANIZATIONS / RESOURCES**

ACCESS - ADVOCACY NEWS / UPDATES

Deaf Unity Services

Deaf Unity Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault services have expanded to include the northern Wisconsin region – Wausau, Stevens Point, Wisconsin Rapids, Green Bay, Rhineland, Eau Claire, Superior, Ashland and Bayfield. Deaf Unity also serves Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, Delavan, Janesville, Beloit, Madison, Appleton, La Crosse, and other areas in the State of Wisconsin.

If you are asking yourself one or any of the questions below, Deaf Unity can help!

- Am I being abused?
- Am I afraid of my abuser or partner who is abusing me?

- Do I not feel safe in my own home – my partner hits, yells, kicks, and embarrasses me in front of others?
- Do I think I am OK – but I am not comfortable of what my partner is doing to me or how he (or she) is treating me?
- Do I know someone who is being abused? What do I do?
- Do I want to know or learn more about abuse?
- Am I interested in knowing what is available in Wisconsin that will help me, or someone I know?
- What can I do to help?

Contact Deaf Unity at: help@deafunitywi.org and Deaf Unity Staff or an advocate will respond to your message as soon as possible during these hours:

Business Hours: Mondays – Fridays 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Evening Hours: Mondays – Fridays 6:00 – 10:00 pm

How does Deaf Unity support you? We provide peer support, give information and referral, go with you to appointments (for example, support you in court to file a restraining order, or at a medical appointment to get an examination for bruises or injuries because of abuse), and be there for you, so you will not feel alone!

Even if you do not want Deaf Unity services, we can help you connect with services in the county you live in.

Our services and information are CONFIDENTIAL, PRIVATE, SAFE, and FREE – and in AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE!

LEGISLATIVE/GOVERNMENT NEWS – STATE AND FEDERAL

There is no legislative/government news in April or May

SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS / PARENTS / FAMILIES—NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Next Step Interpreting, <http://us6.campaign-archive2.com/?u=9b06d42b33&id=2da0f5c854&e=392e436fdb>

**Hearing Loss Association of America, HLAA- April e-News, <http://17291.thankyou4caring.org/emailviewonwebpage.aspx?erid=2566314&trid=3221f044-9355-4373-b03d-39d86acd1e9b> and <http://17291.thankyou4caring.org/emailviewonwebpage.aspx?erid=2534945&trid=915c2879-415d-4f84-a7a8-97051b3cb1f6>

**Hearing Loss Association of America, Wisconsin, http://www.hlaa-wi.org/quarterly_newsletter_timely_notices

**Helen Keller National Center (HKNC), Spring 2014 issue, http://www.hknc.org/CONNECT/2014_3/CONNECT13.htm

**The Hearing Journal, <http://journals.lww.com/thehearingjournal/Pages/enewsletter.aspx>

**Illinois Service Resource Center, ISRC Digital Update April 2014,
<http://www.isrc.us/sites/default/files/doc/DigitalUpdate0414.pdf>

**Healthy Hearing e-News, <http://us1.campaign-archive2.com/?u=c63235405ddb20a55ad225edc&id=14b4e0bb63&e=47417a4931>

**LEAD Center, <http://us6.campaign-archive1.com/?u=bb0c478f9803ed67c40eec568&id=559fedca7b&e=fc16732a1d> and
<http://us6.campaign-archive2.com/?u=bb0c478f9803ed67c40eec568&id=6fa2caba7d&e=fc16732a1d>

**CODE-News Vol. 16, <http://us5.campaign-archive1.com/?u=b9b9482aacf0fa6459b9162ec&id=e941e84545&e=3afa9a74cb>

**PIER of Wisconsin (Parents Information and Education Resource), April's newsletter,
<http://www.pierwi.info/pier-newsletter.html>

CALENDAR: EVENTS / SAVE THE DATES / WORKSHOPS

**Overture Center for the Arts, Madison, WI. Sign Language interpreted performances at
<http://www.overturecenter.com/tickets/accessibility>. See also Children's Theater information at
www.ctmtheater.org.

**Milwaukee Repertory Theatre Interpreted Performances:
<http://www.milwaukeerep.com/tickets/calendar.asp>.

**Fox Cities Performing Arts Center Interpreted Shows: www.foxcitiespac.com. Fox Cities Performing Arts Center has a Hearing Loop. For a complete list of hearing loops installed in Wisconsin can be found at: www.foxvalleyhearingloop.com and this is the only complete list of looped venues in Wisconsin. Updated #546

**University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Forum & Artists Series: <http://www.uwec.edu/Activities/>;
<http://www.uwec.edu/Activities/programs/artists/index.htm>. For information about accommodations for special needs, please call 715-836-3727 or 800-949-8932 or visit the Service Center in the Davies Center east lobby.

**Commonweal Theatre, Lanesboro, MN: www.CommonwealTheatre.org. Please inquire at the box office, 800-657-7025, about assistive listening devices, special seating for those with mobility impairments, and ASL interpreted performances.

**Listing of Minnesota performances presented in ASL or Captioning available at
<http://www.vsamn.org/>, and www.TCDeaf.com. #493/updated #520

**University of Minnesota – Duluth Theater. Interpreted performances available for most shows, visit
<http://www.d.umn.edu/theatre/umd-theatre-home.html> for show information and contacts.

**Open Chat Night for people with hearing loss every Wednesday 8:00 – 10:00 p.m. (EST):
www.OpenChatNight.com.

**Do you live in the Menomonie, WI area or know someone who does? Jan Pesek-Herriges, who has participated in Eau Claire ASL gatherings, has a group meeting at the Menomonie Public Library at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Mondays. Contact person is Jan Pesek-Herriges, sunka@charter.net. #512

**ASL Gathering at The Goat Coffee House, Eau Claire, WI on Tuesday evenings. All welcome to come. Group meets from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in the back room. The Goat will be moving down a block or so to the old Redwing shoe store building soon. Questions or contact: Lacey, lajoris@hotmail.com. The ASL group now has a Facebook page: ASL Eau Claire, www.facebook.com/asleauclaire. (Updated #528/#529/#543)

**Deaf Bible Study: Meets 1st & 3rd Sundays, at 6:00 p.m. open to all Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the Chippewa Valley. Meeting location may vary. Contact amysmith995@gmail.com for location. This study is intended as a Deaf/Hard of Hearing focus—only those hearing who are fluent in sign are encouraged to attend (i.e., not a place to learn/practice sign language).

**HLAA-Fox Valley Regional Chapter meets on the 2nd Monday of each month, April through December at 6:30 p.m. at The Unitarian Fellowship Building, 2600 Phillip Lane, Appleton, WI. For more information, contact Gene Van Asten, theregularguy@gmail.com or Betsy Foley, besty.foley@sbcglobal.net. Information is also available at www.hlaa-wi.org/wisconsin_chapters. For HLAA WI Chapters: Contact Lisa Zovar, lzovar@hlaamadison.com for Madison, Eloise Schwarz, eloise6376@wi.rr.com for Milwaukee Metro, Tami Klink, tamiklink@gmail.com for Lakes Country (Wales), Susan Stanke, daisy5503@yahoo.com for North Country (Minocqua) and Stephanie Long, slabaudiology@gmail.com for HLAA-Wisconsin for more information about the meeting.

**Duluth community meeting is held at Sammy's Pizza, 103 W 1st street, Duluth 5:00 -7:00 PM, the 3rd Thursday of each month. For more information, contact Nancy Crane, nancy.crane@state.mn.us. #543/updated #546

** Marcus Center for the Performing Arts offers interpreted services for the Saturday, 2:00pm matinee for the Broadway musicals. 929 N Water Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. Call (414) 273-7121 or look up www.marcuscenter.org for more information. #547

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**May 8, 2104: DHH Olympic Day at the YMCA, 10:45 AM – 1:30 PM at the Onalaska, WI. RSVP to Michelle Pandian, panmic@holmen.k12.wi.us or 585-797-7139. Bring your swimsuit & gym shoes. Please bring a lunch or eat on the way. #547

**May 15, 2014: Wisconsin School for the Deaf Spring Performance, “Super Freaks”. The performance will take place at 9 AM in the Milton Lee Gymnasium. If you are interested in attending or learning more details, please contact Heather Martens at drama.club@wsd.k12.wi.us. Please RSVP by Friday May 8.

**May 31, 2014: SAVE THE DATE for 2014 Milwaukee [Walk4Hearing](http://www.walk4hearing.org) Walk Day at Veteran's Park, 1010 Lincoln Dr. Registration 9 AM ~ Walk 10 AM. #545/#546

**June 15 – 18, 2014: SAVE THE DATE for the National ADA Symposium in Denver, CO. Click <http://www.adasymposium.org/> for more information. #538

**June 17-July 26, 2014: SAVE THE DATE for Advanced Skill Development For The Working Interpreter at UW-Milwaukee. Classes are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 PM to 8 PM, Enderis Hall, Rm. 638. Contact Pamela Sue Conine at psue@uwm.edu for more information or questions. #546

**June 26 – 29, 2014: SAVE THE DATE for HLAA National Convention in Austin, TX. Information posted as it becomes available at <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/convention>. #539

**July 1-5, 2014: SAVE THE DATE for National Association of the Deaf's Biennial Conference in Atlanta, GA. Information posted as it becomes available at <http://new.nad.org/>. #545

**July 9 – 13, 2014: Gallaudet 150th anniversary reunion, Washington, D.C., <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1223893>. #541

**July 12, 2014: Deaf Northern Woods Picnic. Details posted as they become available. #540

**July 14-19, 2014: SAVE THE DATE for Postsecondary Training Institute "Access Always, in All Ways" the 37th Conference of the Association on Higher Education And Disability and the pepnet2 in Sacramento, CA. Registration is now open at <http://us4.campaign-archive2.com/?u=851ef9b396ace8e3f046c5567&id=694a31a844&e=45361a168a>. #542 / #546

**August 4-8, 2014: SAVE THE DATE for Strategies and Techniques for the RID-NIC Interview/Performance Test at UW-Milwaukee from 9 AM to 4 PM. Contact Pamela Sue Conine at psue@uwm.edu for more information or questions. #546

**October 10-12, 2014: SAVE THE DATE for WisRID Fall Conference in Green Bay, WI. For any questions, please contact the WisRID Fall Conference Planning Committee Co-Chairs, Michelle Andrae and Christina Destrampe at fallconference@wisrid.org. #546

ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

No articles and publications of interest for April & May.

CHECK OUT THESE SITES FOR MEETINGS, EVENTS, SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, CLASSES, ISSUES AND INFORMATION, ADVOCACY, AND MUCH MORE:

- **American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA):** <http://www.aslta.org/>; ASLTA is a national organization of professionals involved with teaching American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf Studies.
- **American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA):** www.asha.org/default.htm; ASHA is the professional, scientific, and credentialing association for more than 127,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists, speech-language pathologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists. Click on "[The Public](#)" for resources.
- **Assistive Listening Device (ALD) Locator:** <http://www.aldlocator.com/>; Use this convenient ALD locator to find venues that offer assistive listening devices for an enriched listening experience.
- **Association of Late Deafened-Adults Inc. (ALDA):** <http://www.alda.org/index.php>; ALDA's mission is to support the empowerment of late-deafened people. ALDA-Southern Wisconsin meets in Janesville. Chapter contact is Jessica Congdon, mjcongdon@sbcglobal.net; Blackberry email jcongdon@sprint.blackberry.net; 1-866-207-4503 Home VP.

- **Audiology Online:** www.audiologyonline.com; Source of news, information, training and education offerings (live E-seminars, recorded courses, text-based courses) from many manufacturers of hearing aids, cochlear implants, batteries, etc. Many courses are free.
- **Better Hearing Institute (BHI):** www.betterhearing.org; The Better Hearing Institute is a not-for-profit corporation that educates the public about the neglected problem of hearing loss and what can be done about it. A seven topic mega-blog offers the latest hearing health news and provides a forum for people to discuss hearing concerns and personal stories and challenges.
- **Center for Communication, Hearing & Deafness (CCHD):** www.cchdwi.org; Provides comprehensive programs and services that enhance communication and promote independence. Located in West Allis, WI. Also home of UniversaLink. (Formerly Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing – CDHH).
- **Center for Sight & Hearing:** www.centerforsighthearing.org; The Center for Sight & Hearing provides Low Vision; Audiology; Rehabilitation Services/Training for individuals with vision loss in technology; employment training; job placement; and Older Adult training for individuals with vision loss; support groups; assessments; retail store with assistive technology for both hearing and vision losses; Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment site (EIPA); sign language interpreting, captioning, braille transcription and sign language classes. Located in Rockford, IL Three on –staff interpreters licensed to work in WI. 815-332-6800.
- **DAWN (Disability Advocates Wisconsin Network):** www.dawninfo.org; Provides current information on state disability issues, state budget, legislative activity, national disability issue links. Hearing aid legislation is currently included in their “Take Action” box.
- **Deaf Bilingual Coalition (DBC):** Promotes the basic human right of all deaf infants and young children to have access to language and cognitive development through American Sign Language (ASL). National organization website at www.dbcusa.org.
- **Deaf Unity:** www.deafunitywi.org; Deaf Unity is available to help and empower Deaf victims of abuse (women, children, and men) to understand their rights not to be abused, to receive help, and to make their own choices and self-determination.
- **Disability Law Lowdown:** www.ASL.DisabilityLawLowdown.com. ASL podcasts that allows subscribers to see native Deaf speakers signing the show’s content. For the fastest viewing the ASL podcasts are available on YouTube at www.youtube.com/disabilitylawlowdown. Disability Law Lowdown is provided by the Disability Business Technical Assistance Center (DBTAC).
- **Gallaudet University:** www.gallaudet.edu; Gallaudet University leads the world in undergraduate liberal arts education, career development, and outstanding graduate programs for deaf, hard of hearing individuals
- **Hands and Voices:** www.handsandvoiceswi.org/; a parent driven, non-profit organization dedicated to providing unbiased support to families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- **Hand-n-Hand:** www.hnhnew.org; a playgroup for children who are deaf or hard of hearing ages birth to five; All events held at 411 St. John Street, Green Bay, WI 54301 unless otherwise specified. Activities include play date and play group, sign language classes, social activities, informational sessions, more.
- **Hearing Healthcare:** www.healthyhearing.com for helpful information on hearing aids, hearing loss, cochlear implants, tinnitus, and more.
- **Hearing Health Foundation (formerly Deafness Research Foundation):** www.drff.org. Hearing Health Foundation is the leading national source of private funding for research in hearing and balance science. Hearing Health Foundation publishes the award-winning Hearing Health magazine.
- **Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA):** www.hearingloss.org is the national site.
- **Hearing Loss Association of America, WI (HLAA-WI):** www.hlaa-wi.org is the site for information on state chapter meetings, events and other time sensitive announcements. HLAA-

WI publishes a quarterly newsletter that is sent out electronically and is available at http://www.hlaa-wi.org/quarterly_newsletter_timely_notices. You do not have to be a member of HLAA to receive the newsletter. However, we need your name and e-mail address. If you wish to receive our publication, please contact Julie at julieo@athenet.net.

- **Let Them Hear Foundation (LTHF):** www.letthemhear.org provides hearing services for underprivileged American youth, education, insurance advocacy for cochlear implants, and research.
- **Madison Area Technical College's Healthcare Interpreting certificate:** <http://madisoncollege.edu/health-care-interpreting>. MATC offers certificate program for interpreters interested in specializing in Health Care fields
- **National Association of the Deaf(NAD):** www.nad.org; the nation's premier civil rights organization of, by and for deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the United States of America
- **National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD):** <http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/Pages/default.aspx>; Provides research information, health information & topics, news & events including information on communication methods and devices for people with hearing loss.
- **National Technical Institute for the Deaf/Rochester Institute of Technology:** www.ntid.rit.edu; The National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) is the first and largest technological college in the world for students who are deaf or hard of hearing
- **Next Step Interpreting:** www.nextstepinterpreting.com; Provides professional development services for sign language interpreters. Their services include mentoring, webinars, events, consulting services, and host webinar presenters.
- **PACER Center:** www.pacer.org; The mission of PACER Center is to expand opportunities and enhance the quality of life of children and young adults with disabilities and their families, based on the concept of parents helping parents. PACER Center also administers REFERENCE POINTS, a technical assistance activity of the TATRA Project.
- **Parents Information and Education Resource (PIER):** <http://www.pierwi.info/index.html>; This is a non-profit group which is an informational and support resource for families in need of help for their child with special needs based out of Wisconsin Rapids, WI.
- **Postsecondary Education Programs Network 2 (pn2):** www.pepnet.org; is a national US Department of Education funded program which provides resources, assistance, training, technology and research to improve postsecondary outcomes for students who are deaf/hard of hearing, their families and those who work with them. Pepnet 2 has had a long history with the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, formerly known as MCPO and PEPNet-Midwest. Go to www.pepnet.org for more information about the new grant cycle, in addition to helpful information, resources and professional development opportunities.
- **Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute (SVRI):** www.svri.uwstout.edu/; Provides solutions to positively impact the future of persons with disabilities and others in the community through education, research, and services. Archived newsletters and publications from SVRI may be available on their website. **U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA):** www.fda.gov/default.htm; Provides consumer health information. Enter topic in "Search" engine.
- **University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire's Certificate in American Sign Language;** <https://www.uwec.edu/CE/programs/ASLcertificate.htm>; The Certificate in American Sign Language (ASL) provides official recognition to UW-Eau Claire students for having completed a concentration in ASL.
- **University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Interpreter Training Program:** https://www4.uwm.edu/soe/academics/ex_ed/itp.cfm; The mission of the UWM Interpreter Training Program (ITP) is to educate students to be competent bilingual/bicultural interpreters by emphasizing service learning experiences in the Deaf community.

- **Video Relay Services Consumer Association (VRSCA):** www.vrsca.org; a communication forum for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and hearing persons who use Video Relay Services (VRS).
- **Wisconsin Association of the Deaf (WAD):** www.wisdeaf.org is the site for information on state chapter meetings and events; www.nad.org is the national site. Update #532: WAD is now on Facebook. Instructions to sign up at <http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=5986143e8b859c8c11d0c009e&id=532cbe0aba&e=35ff50cf7e>.
- **Wisconsin DeafBlind Technical Assistance Project (WDBTAP):** <http://www.wdbtap.wi.gov/index.cfm> is a federally funded technical assistance and dissemination project. WDBTAP is a resource to families, agencies and schools supporting infants, children and youth aged birth to 21 with combined vision and hearing loss.
- **Wisconsin Educational Services Program Deaf and Hard of Hearing Outreach (WESPDHH Outreach):** www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov/ provides a variety of programs and services to students who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind, their families and the educational teams and school districts that serve them, regardless of the student's educational placement or communication modality. A WESPDHH Outreach newsletter is available on their website.
- **Wisconsin Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (WisRID):** www.wisrid.org is the site for state information and events; www.rid.org is the national site.
- **Wisconsin Statewide Transition Initiative (WSTI):** www.wsti.org is a grant funded project through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to improve results for youth with disabilities. The [WSTI Transition Coordinators](http://www.wsti.org) in each of the 12 Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESA) provides assistance at the local level to promote understanding and implementation of IDEA transition requirements and best practice. Check their website frequently for announcements, workshops, and events. Transition e-newsletters are available at <http://www.wsti.org/e-news/>.

For more information on ODHH:

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/odhh>

To request in-service training, contact an ODHH Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist:

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/odhh/Staff/index.htm>

To apply for TAP:

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/odhh/TAP/index.htmh>

Send submissions of announcements, articles, and other information to:

Melani Kaplan

Human Services Program Coordinator

Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Melani.Kaplan@wisconsin.gov